

*Image* *AR*  
*2829*



Docket No. 01-724

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Re application of : Johnson, Brad  
Serial No. : 09/981,200  
Examiner : Kobert, Russell Marc  
Art Unit : 2829  
Filed : October 17, 2001  
For : VORTEX UNIT FOR PROVIDING A DESIRED  
ENVIRONMENT FOR A SEMICONDUCTOR PROCESS

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner For Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION  
DATED DECEMBER 30, 2003**

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Michele D. Norine

DATED: February 18, 2004

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Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated December 30, 2003, for which the three-month shortened statutory period is set to expire on March 30, 2003. While Applicant believes that no extension of time for response is necessary, should the Office determine that any additional fees are necessary for this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies to Deposit Account No. 12-2252.

**Amendment to the Claims** are reflected in the **Listing of Claims** which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 9 of this paper.